Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PAGE 01 STATE 140309 2.1 **ORIGIN NEA-16** INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-11 AID-20 IGA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 DPW-01 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 /137 R DRAFTED BY NEA/RA:RSEARING/EA/RA:DLAMBERTSON:EO APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON NEA/AFN:MWILEY NEA/ARN:SWARD NEA/ARP:FDICKMAN NEA/IAI:WCLUVERIUS NEA/PAB:PCONSTABLE NEA/INS:DKUX ----- 075689 R 281919Z JUN 74 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN AMEMBASSY BEIRUT AMEMBASSY COLOMBO AMEMBASSY DACCA AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD AMEMBASSY JIDDA AMEMBASSY KABUL AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI AMEMBASSY RABAT AMEMBASSY SANAA AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV AMEMBASSY TUNIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 140309 E.O. 11652:N/A TAGS: EAID, PINS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PAGE 02 STATE 140309

SUBJECT: FAA SECTION 32 - POLITICAL PRISONERS

REF: STATE 068545

- 1. REFTEL PROVIDED TEXT OF SECTION 32 AND ASKED ADDRESSEES ASSESS HOW IT COULD AFFECT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN THEIR COUNTRIES, AND PROBABLE EFFECT OF DENYING ECONOMIC OR MILITARY ASSISTANCE ON BASIS OF THAT PROVISION.
- 2. IN CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON CURRENT AID LEGISLATION, QUESTION OF SECTION 32 HAS BEEN BROACHED REPEATEDLY, WITH STATE/AID WITNESSES BEING ASKED WHAT HAS BEEN DONE TO CARRY OUT THIS PROVISION. WE HAVE STATED THAT POSTS HAVE BEEN CIRCULARIZED, HAVE RESPONDED, AND THAT ON BASIS OF THOSE RESPONSES WE ARE EVALUATING SITUATION AND CONSIDERING HOW BEST TO PROCEED. WE HAVE ALSO NOTED DIFFICULTIES OF DEFINING "POLITICAL PRISONERS", DISADVANTAGES OF TERMINATING AID, AND RELATIVE EFFECTIVENESS OF PRIVATE REPRESENTATIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.
- 3. WE ARE CURRENTLY ATTEMPTING TO WORK OUT AN AGREED DE-PARTMENT POSITION ON SECTION 32, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ABOVE FACTORS, SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH THAT PROVISION IS VIEWED BY CONGRESS, OUR OWN COMMITMENT AS GOVERNMENT TO ADVANCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS, AND CONSTRAINTS

IMPOSED BY OUR WORLDWIDE RESPONSIBILITIES AND OUR VARIED INTERESTS IN COUNTRIES CONCERNED.

4. IN MEANTIME, HOWEVER, WE DO BELIEVE THAT ONE ADDITIONAL STEP CAN AND SHOULD BE TAKEN--THAT OF INFORMING HOST GOVERNMENTS OF TEXT OF SECTION 32 AND CONGRESSIONAL SENTIMENT IT REFLECTS. THEREFORE, UNLESS EMBASSY STRONGLY BELIEVES SUCH ACTION WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE, YOU SHOULD PROVIDE HOST GOVERNMENT WITH TEXT OF SECTION 32. (CONTAINED PARA 2 REFTEL) IN SO DOING YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN THAT AS "SENSE OF CONGRESS", PROVISION IS NOT A MANDATORY REQUIREMENT UPON THE PRESIDENT. NEVERTHELESS, INSOFAR AS IT EXPRESSES CONGRESSIONAL INTENT AND PURPOSE, IT COULD WELL AFFECT APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND IT THEREFORE DESERVES SERIOUS CONSIDERATION BY HOST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOVERNMENT. YOU SHOULD ALSO MAKE CLEAR THAT HOST GOVERNMENT IS NOT BEING SINGLED OUT; ALL AID RECIPIENT GOVERNMENTS IN NEA ARE BEING INFORMED OF PROVISION AND ITS POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

5. POSTS SHOULD REFER TO REFTEL FOR ADDITIONAL MATERIAL IN MAKING REPRESENTATIONS. LEAVE TO POSTS THE LEVEL AND SCOPE OF REPRESENTATIONS IN VIEW OF WIDELY VARYING CIR-

CUMSTANCES AMONG INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES. SINCE AID LEGISLATION HEARINGS ARE STILL IN PROGRESS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN AND HOST GOVERNMENT REACTION. SISCO

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